324 G

Bank of Montreal,
Wolfville, N.S. 15 Feb 1906
[P.O. Box 191]

Wm Brewster, Esq
Brattle St.
Cambridge - Mass -

Dear Sir:

Do you care to purchase all or any of the following sets of birds eggs? -

1/3 White Winged Crossbill (with skin of female)
1/3 1/2 American - do - (1/2 with - ")

They are strictly first class eggs; are neatly sized, blown with small holes, and are beautifully marked - I have the nests also. I have been supplying the Government Museum at Ottawa, with rare birds eggs for several years, & if you want reference, - write Dr. J. F. Whiteaves, Ottawa. I enclose duplicate data card -

Yours truly
R. W. Tufts

P.S. Can you make me an offer - R.W.T. -

Tufts, R. W.
Feb. 15, 1906.

nest/eggs of bird
Loxia leucoptera
" c. americana

A.O.U. # 522. Species. White Winged Crossbill.

Date: Feb. 8th 1906. Set mark. 1/3

Locality: Gaspereau Mtn. Kings Co. Nova Scotia.

Identity: Female taken.

Incubation: Slight.

Site. Nest saddled on limb of large yellow spruce tree, 80 feet up. Composed of twigs, moss (usnea), lichens & lined with moss & vegetable down.

Collector: H. F. Tufts.

enc. 15 Feb 06

324 G

Orders 2 sets
(Bow & cable Hummer)
Bullet & Bullet Hummer

Bank of Montreal,
Wolfeville, N.S. FEB 22 1906 19

Wm Brewster Esqre.
Cambridge
Mass.

Dear Sir:

I will sell the Crosbill's eggs for $5.00 each. The skins of the female birds (& nests if you want them) to accompany their sets without extra charge. This is the price quoted in two standard catalogs, & the material is of the best quality.

Some private collectors prefer the eggs unmarked, if you decide to take them, let me know if you wish them marked or not.

Very truly yours R. W. Tufts

Tufts - R.W.
Feb. 22. 1906.

324 G

Bank of Montreal,

Wolfville, N.S. 1st March 1906

Wm Brewster, Esqre.
145 Brattle Street
Cambridge.

Dear Sir:-

I have received your letter of Feb. 28th & am sending by this mail n/z White Winged Crossbill & n/z American Crossbill with the skins in each case.

I have sent eggs thro' the mail for several years & so far none have been damaged.

Since writing I have taken several sets of 4 eggs of the "American" C. and several of 3 eggs. Do you care to take any more at this price? Could you give me the names & addresses of any private collectors you might happen to know, to whom I might offer these

Trigts - R.W.
Mar 18. 1906.

sets? If so I should be much obliged.

Feeling confident that these eggs will be quite satisfactory to you, I am

Very truly yours,

R. W. Tufts

P.S. I regret that the skin of the White Winged Crossbill is in rather bad shape. The bird was badly shot.

R.W.T.

3246

Bank of Montreal,
Wolfville, N.S. MAR 28 1906 19

Wm Brewster, Esq
Cambridge
Mass.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of 26th inst. just received, containing a cheque for $20.00, for which I thank you.

Out of 7 or 8 sets of Crossbills egg taken only two I think, were found by "looking for them" as you put it. The rest & several others that were deserted before completion, were found by patiently watching the birds while feeding, when suddenly they would stop, fly to a dead stub for moss or decayed wood & carry it some rods to a half built nest. After three or four of such trips they would resume their feeding, and 10 or 12 days later I would get a set. (unless I found the nest deserted, which often proves to be the case) If when the nest is, say 1/2 done, there comes a heavy snow or sleet fall, they desert & wait till the snow gets blown or melted from the limbs & begin over. All the nests I have ~~taken~~ found with 3 or 4 exceptions

3246

28 M 2 v 06

Bank of Montreal,
Wolfville, N.S. ..... 19 .....

have been in a small patch of open dry woodland perhaps covering two acres. It seems to be an ideal spot. Only this afternoon I found a nest just about completed of the "American"; the nesting season is about over tho' for these birds, as they are getting scarce. I saw but 4 this pm. where two weeks or a month ago I would have seen 20-40- of both species.

Floral Park. New York not New Jersey, I find is Mr Child's address. He is in California at present, but will soon return. Mr Shaffer took 2/4 of the "American" & wanted some of the White Winged but I had none to offer him. Thank you for these names.

Very truly yours
B. W. Leffler

P.S. I have 2/4 + 1/5 American Sparrow hawk, collected in 1905, which are in the best of condition that I would be pleased to let you have at your own figure. also 1/7 - 1/5 + 1/4 Bobolink.

B. W. L.

324 G

Bank of Montreal,
Wolfville, N.S. APR 12 1906 19

Wm Brewster Esq
Brattle St.
Cambridge.

Dear Sir:

Yesterday, I found a good firm nest of the White Winged Crossbill, containing 3 young birds, about 2 days old. The nest is in a low thick bush about 4 feet only, from ground. Am planning to get some photos of this nest and if they are good, I shall send you some. After the young birds leave the nest, I will send it to you to replace the poor one, send with the 3 eggs, some time ago—

Truro R.W.
April 12, 1906

This is the second nest of the White Winged C. I have found since Apl. 1st, and both were in low bushes. The 1st contained 3 eggs, which I sold to Mr. Thayer.

I have recently taken a fine set of 5 eggs of the American Crossbill, with good nest. Do you want this set?

Yours respectfully
R. W. Leefe

324 C

Bank of Montreal,
Wolfville, N.S. 11 May 1906.

Wm Brewster, Esqr
Cambridge.
Mass.

Dear Sir:

I have the following sets of eggs which I should be pleased to sell you:—

Seasonal sets 8 to 10 eggs Golden Cr. kinglet (with beautiful nests) @ $1.00 per egg.
1/5 Red Breasted Nuthatch — @ 1.00 per egg.
11/5 Rusty Grackle @ 1.00 per egg.
14/4 Pine Siskin @ .75¢ per egg.
All sets are perfectly blown —

Yours very truly
R. W. Tufts

I have ordered these sets to note. Please send Tufts two money $3.00 when they arrive & they are in good condition W. B.

Tufts. R.W.
May 11, 1906

324 G

Bank of Montreal.

Wolfville, N.S. 28 May 1906

Wm Brewster Esq
Cambridge. Mass

Dear Sir.

I regret having sold the set of 7/11 Pine Siskin, before I heard from you. I am sending by this mail 2 sets of 3 Eg with nests, & trust that this will be satisfactory to you.

I think about $5.00 for the two sets is a fair price.

Very truly yours,

R. W. Tufts

Dear Mr. Tufts: I don't care for the 7/11 Siskin, unfortunately. Please send the other two sets. Yours truly, Wm Brewster

Tufts. R.W.
May 28. 1906

324 G

Bank of Montreal,
Wolfeville, N.S. 19 June 1906

Tufts, R.W.
June 19 1906

William Brewster, Esq.

Dear Sir:-

The returned boxes of Sishins eggs & nests reached me safely. I regret having given you so much trouble.

Only yesterday I took 2 beautiful sets of Sishins eggs, one of 5 & one of 4. I have never before taken so large a set as 5 eggs of this species. I am sending this set with nest & am sure it will please you. Do you care for the set of 4 eggs also? For this set of 5 eggs I want $5.00. The standard price is 1.00 per egg, I see, & this is such a choice set.

I have a fine set w/4 Olive Sided Fly-catcher. I may get a set of 5 later, as I did so, a year ago. Do you want it?

Very truly yours,
R.W. Tufts

I have a perfect set of 5 eggs of Hudsonian Chickadee.

324 C

Bank of Montreal,
Wolfville, N.S. 2 July 1906

Wm Brewster
Dear Sir:

Your valued favor of 25th ult, received on my return from a little trip, with enclosure of $5.00 in payment of 1/5 Siskins egg, for which I thank you.

For the Studsmian Chickadee 1/5 I want 1.50 per egg. Mr Shayer recently took a set at that price, $1.75 per egg is the price quoted from one standard catalog. This set is perfect, one egg is very odd looking, & was not fertile. I have the fur lining of the cavity but the stub itself was very frail & not suitable for a collection.

Regarding the data of the extra Crossbill nest, I regret that I have none. It was a deserted nest I think & was never lined in. I found it early in April & watched it for a week & the birds were never there so I took it. I knew it was the White Wing, from the location. It was saddled on a horizontal limb of small spruce bush 6 feet up & a foot out from trunk.

Very truly yours
[illegible]

THE GRAND HOTEL
YARMOUTH NOVA SCOTIA
A.E. ELLIS MANAGER

12th June '09

Wm Brewster Esq
Brattle Street
Cambridge.

Dear Sir. - I can supply a few sets of eggs of the Spruce Grouse, Yellow Palm Warbler and one of the Ruby crowned Kinglet - they are all complete & perfect clutches and contain 6 eggs per set, 4 & 5 eggs & 9 eggs respectively - and were collected in an unfrequented part of this Province by my brother H. F. Tufts.

I note that

·2

THE GRAND HOTEL
YARMOUTH NOVA SCOTIA
A.E. ELLIS MANAGER

the Catalog prices for these are as follows
Spruce Grouse - per sq. 10.00
Yellow Palm Warbler " 5.00
Ruby Cr Kinglet " 2.00

Are these Eggs (all or any) at the above quoted prices attractive to you?
Address me at Wolfville, N.S.

Yours very truly
R. M. Tufts.

Received date 6 ⅝ 6.
Stamp: Postage Due 3c
Canceled by Wolfville Postal Station
Canceled by Cambridge Station
4:30 PM
Received at Cambridge
July 7, 1909

Wolfville, N.S.
3 July '09

Mr. Wm. A. Brewster.
Cambridge. Mass.

Dear Sir. –

Since writing to you recently relative to the Eggs of Spruce Grouse etc. I have been offered $4.00 per egg for the Grouse & Yellow Palms – I have three fine sets of the

Spruce or Canada Grouse, 6 eggs in each, but do not care to part with them at this figure. I have several sets of "yellow Palms" (4 + 5 eggs) which I offer @ 4.00 per egg. I have sold some at this price already. I have 1/4 Ruby Cr. Kinglet + 1/4 + 1/5 Nashville Warbler - 2/4 Parula Warbler -

For the Grouse I want 6.00 per egg - Yellow Palm 4.00.

Probably the other are not new to your collections.

Do you care for the Grouse or "yellow" Palms at the above figures?

Yours very truly

R. W. Tufts

36
16
5-2

Wolfville N.S.
10 Jul 09

R. A. Gilfillan Esq
145 Brattle St
Cambridge

Dear Sir,

I'm sending by mail my 4 Yellow Palm Wbs. @4.00 $16.00
1/6 Spruce Grouse @6.00 36.00
$52.00

as per Mr Brewsters order of recent date. The Grouse set was laid by a wild bird and is one of 3 sets of 6 eggs that were discovered by my brother at Caledonia, Queens Co. N.S. The Yellow Palms vary quite as to markings & shape. You will note by the enclosed list of eggs that I had ~~[illegible]~~ eleven sets - one set of 4

10 Jul 09

2

of this species is peculiar in as much as that the eggs are nearly white - I'd be pleased to send ~~them~~ Mr Brewster other sets of this species - I am of course assuming all risk of damage in transit of these eggs.

Yours very truly,

R. W. Tufts.

PS. Would call Mr Brewster attention to the enclosed lists if convenient, in case there is something else there he'd like for his collection.

R W T

Eggs for Sale

Collections of

R. W and H. F. Tufts

Wolfville, Nova Scotia – 1909.

		per egg
3/6	Spruce Grouse	$6.00
5/5-4/4	Yellow Palm Warbler	4.00
1/4-1/5	Nashville "	1.50
3/4-1/5	Parula "	.75
2/5	Myrtle "	.50
5/5-4/4	Magnolia "	.25
4/4	Blk Thr. Green "	.25
2/4	Mil Yellow "	.20
1/4	Blk & Wh. Creeping "	.75
1/4	Chestnut-Sided "	.15
1/5-3/4-1/3	Blue-Headed Vireo	1.00
1/2	Olive Sided Flycr	.75
3/4-1/7	Hudsonian Chickadee	1.00
2/5	Rusty B. Bird	[illegible]
1/4	Ruby Crd Kinglet	2.00
1/2	" Thrd Hum. bird	1.00
1/2	Amer. Goshawk	2.00
2/4	" Sparrow hk	.40
1/2	Night Hawk	.30
1/4	Red Shd Hawk	[illegible]
	Osprey	.50
3/3	Hermit Thrush	.20
1/4	Olive Back Thrush	.20
2/4	Slate Cold Junco	.20
2/4	White Thr. Sparrow	.20
1/4	Fox "	.20
1/4-1/5	Bobolink	.25
1/3	Am. Crossbill	3.00
1/3	White winged "	3.00
2/4	Swamp Sparrow	.15
1/6	Blk Duck	.40
1/10	Ruffed Grouse	.25

KEIRSTEAD & MERSEREAU LIMITED.

FUR FARMERS.

INVESTMENT BROKERS AGENTS, TRUSTEES & STOCK REGISTRARS.

73 DOCK STREET,

Wolfville, Nova Scotia
Nov. 2nd '14

Mr Wm Brewster:
Cambridge Mass,

My dear Mr. Brewster —

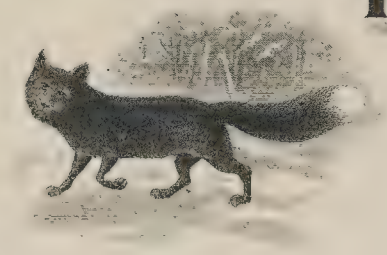
Your favor of recent date duly received. I'm sending the 3/5 Yellow Palm Warbler by Post from this side. I do not happen to have an opportunity to send by a friend going to Boston so am sending as I did at my own risk of confiscation — I hope they will please you. The price is $25.00 —

I should very much like to

possess a copy of your work "Birds of the Cambridge Region" - If you have a copy to spare I wish you would send me one, deducting cost of same from your ck for the eggs. If you have not one to spare, could you tell me from whom I might order one.

Yours very truly -

Robert W. Tufts.



KEIRSTEAD & MERSEREAU LIMITED.

FUR FARMERS.

INVESTMENT BROKERS AGENTS, TRUSTEES & STOCK REGISTRARS.

73 DOCK STREET,

Woodville
Nov 24

Wm Brewster Esq
145 Brattle St
Cambridge
Mass

My dear Mr. Brewster,—

Your favor of 20th inst to hand. Very glad indeed to know that the eggs were found and received in satisfactory condition. I thank you for enclosed ck. of $22.50 & for the copy of your book. The latter I expect to greatly enjoy for I am familiar with Cambridge district. Yours very truly

A. W. Lucas

Wolfville, N.S.
Apl 12, 1915

Mr Wm Brewster,
Cambridge Mass.

Dear Mr Brewster,

On Mch 24th ult. and Apl. 6th and 8th I took 3 sets of eggs of the Northern Raven, 1/2. 1/5. & 1/6. I have never had a set of these eggs to offer you. They are beautifully marked and are all perfect. The 1/2 was placed on a ledge in a cliff 80 feet from the beach and the sea-wall was 110 feet high at this point & was protected from above by a 4 foot overhang of rock. It was a great problem to get the eggs, but after 3 attempts I succeeded. I enclose a snap shot - very poor tho it is, showing method of ascent. You might be interested to know that this ledge ~~was~~ has been occupied by Ravens as a nesting site for at least 60 years and probably much longer. I heard

12 Apr 15

2

about it last fall. I talked with a man who is 80 yrs old and he tells me that he used to stone the birds there when he was but a lad. The birds were exceedingly shy even when the nest was being approached — unlike the two others I collected this year, which were very bold in defense of nest. Do you have any knowledge of the age the Raven attains? I believe these birds were very old, which might account for the small set, and the comparatively small size of the eggs, also for the extreme shyness of the birds! The nest has never been ~~successfully molested~~ reached before so. For, as I lived here in the Community and the latest word from there tells me, that apparently they are going to nest the second time.

If you ~~were~~ care for this series I wish you would please make me an offer. Yours very truly,

R W Lafts

Enc. 12 Apr 15